

UCT-0019
(00-33)

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following paragraph found at page 2, lines 3-22 as follows:

A solventless process for preparing conductive polyurethane foams in which supercritical carbon dioxide (scCO_2) was used to dissolve an oxidant and swell the polyurethane foam in order to incorporate the oxidant has been reported by Y. Fu, D. R. Palo, C. Erkey and R. A. Weiss in "Synthesis of Conductive Polypyrrole/polyurethane Foams Via a Supercritical Fluid Process", *Macromolecules*, Volume 30, pp. 7611-7613 (1997); and by Y. Fu, D. R. Palo, C. Erkey and R. A. Weiss in "Synthesis of Conductive Polypyrrole/polyurethane Foams Via a Supercritical Fluid Process", *ACS Polymer Preprints*, Volume 38, p. 430 (1997). That process requires the synthesis of organo-metal sulfonate and organo-metal carboxylate compounds that exhibit higher solubility in scCO_2 than prior oxidants commonly used for the in situ polymerization of pyrrole, e.g., ferric chloride. The development of oxidants compatible with scCO_2 for the chemical oxidative polymerization of pyrrole were reported at the national meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers in 1998 (I. Kaya, C. Erkey and R. A. Weiss, "Synthesis of Conductive Polymer Composites with Ferric Salts of Fluoroalkylsulfonic Acids as Oxidants Using Supercritical Fluids", *AIChE National Mtg.*, Orlando, FL, 1998) and described in the Master of Science Thesis of Ipek Kaya (Synthesis of Conductive Polymer Blends Using Supercritical Carbon Dioxide, University of Connecticut, 1999). Although the scCO_2 process eliminates or reduces the need for organic solvents, it is difficult to obtain products with uniform conductivity, and efficient removal of the redox byproduct of the oxidative polymerization reaction often requires use of organic solvents.